

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MIDWEST, INC.	DOCKET NO. RPU-01-1 (TF-00-297)
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**ORDER EXTENDING TIME FOR FILING STATUS REPORT**

(Issued February 14, 2001)

On November 29, 2000, AT&T Communications of the Midwest, Inc. (AT&T), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a letter and revised tariff page to its Iowa Telephone Tariff No. 4. In its letter, AT&T proposes to expand its local service territory and amend its local certificate to add the exchange areas of Frontier Communications of Iowa, Inc. (Frontier), South Slope Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc. (South Slope), Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa (Heartland), Farmers Mutual Telephone Company of Jesup, Iowa (Farmers Mutual), and Shell Rock Telephone Company (Shell Rock).

On December 28, 2000, South Slope, Heartland, and Shell Rock filed a request that the Board docket AT&T's request for amendment of its certificate and the proposed revised service area tariff page. The objectors stated they have concerns regarding the expansion of AT&T's certificate. They also stated they were discussing their concerns with AT&T.

On January 9, 2001, the Board issued an order docketing this matter and directing the parties to continue discussions and file a status report on or before January 19, 2001. The Board stated that if no status report was filed, it would set a procedural schedule in this matter.

While the parties have not filed a formal status report, they have made some effort, through informal conversations with Board staff, to keep the Board informed regarding the progress of their negotiations. While this is not normally the preferred means of communication in a formal docket, the Board understands from these conversations that both parties desire additional time to discuss alternatives. Accordingly, the Board will extend the time for filing a status report to February 21, 2001. If no report is filed, the Board will take such action as may be appropriate.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

The deadline for filing a status report regarding negotiations in this docket, established in the January 9, 2001, "Order Docketing Tariff," is hereby extended to February 21, 2001.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper      /s/ Diane Munns  
Acting Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2001.